

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 272856

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FOL REPEAT OTTAWA 4028 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
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QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 4028

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, UNGA
SUBJECT: STATUS OF RATIFICATIONS FOR DRUG CONTROL TREATIES

REF: STATE A-8852

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT REFAIR NCO QUERIED DR. D.M. SMITH
OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND
WELFARE, ON CURRENT OUTLOOK FOR SIGNATURE AND
RATIFICATION OF 1972 PROTOCOL AMENDING SINGLE
CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AND CONVENTION ON
PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES. SMITH SAID THAT GOC ENDORSEES
BOTH OF THESE TREATIES BUT ACCESSION STILL "SOME MONTHS
OFF".

2. GOC HAS SOME DIFFICULTY WITH EXTRADITION CLAUSE
IN AMENDING PROTOCOL AND DEPT OF JUSTIC IS CURRENTLY
LOOKING INTO ITS COMPATIBILITY WITH CANADIAN LAW.
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ANOTHER DELAYING FACTOR IS HEALTH DEPT RELUCTANCE
TO SEIZE PARLIAMENT WITH MORE DRUG LEGISLATION UNTIL
BILL PROVIDING FOR LIGHTER SENTENCE FOR USERS OF
CANNABIS IS PASSED. COMMENT: THIS BILL CURRENTLY BEING
CONSIDERED IN SENATE WHERE IT WAS INTRODUCED AND WILL
PROBABLY NOT PASS HOUSE OF COMMONS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.
END COMMENT.

3. IN VIEW OF THESE DELAYS CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO
BY-PASSING PARLIAMENT ALTOGETHER BY HAVING CABINET
APPROVE AMENDMENT TO SINGLE CONVENTION AND POSSIBLY
USE SAME PROCEDURE FOR PSYCHOTROPICS CONVENTION. THIS
METHOD WOULD OBVIOUSLY SPEED UP SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION.

4. NCO EXPRESSED OUR HOPE THAT GOC MAY STILL BE AMONG
REMAINING EIGHT GOVERNMENTS NEEDED TO BRING AMENDING
PROTOCOL INTO EFFECT.
JOHNSON

UNQTE
INGERSOLL

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